

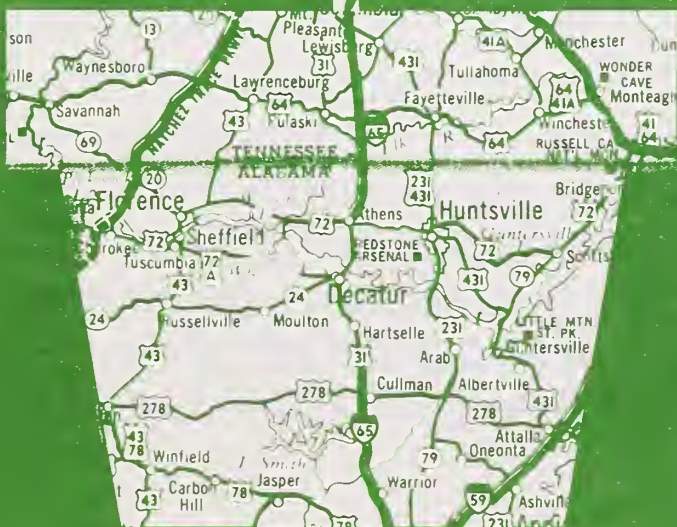
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MOVING? TRAVELING? TRADING PLANTS?

Leave Pests Behind



Plant Protection
and Quarantine
Programs

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

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MOVING? TRAVELING? TRADING PLANTS?

Leave Pests Behind

You may be spreading destructive plant pests without knowing it.

Insects, snails, diseases, and other pests often hide in house and garden plants or “hitchhike” on items used out of doors, such as patio furniture, barbecue grills, and lawnmowers. When moving such items, you may be bringing plant pests along to your new home.

Anytime you travel, in fact, you could be taking unwanted guests along. Plant pests sometimes are carried from one part of the country to another on cars, trailers, and camping equipment—even on those souvenir items you enjoy bringing home from vacations (rocks, plants, and pieces of wood).

There’s also the possibility of your spreading plant pests when you trade plants and bulbs with friends. You may not notice destructive grubs in the soil, nematodes on the plant roots, or insect eggs on the undersides of leaves.

PEST INFESTATION

Just one destructive pest is enough to start a pest outbreak that can cause millions of dollars damage to lawns, flowers, trees, and crops.

Plant pests are everyone's concern. By their destructiveness, pests can lower property values; ruin school grounds and recreational areas; and increase the price and reduce the quality of food.

PLANT QUARANTINES

In many States, Federal and State plant quarantines restrict the movement of plants and other articles that may harbor destructive pests. Before these articles can legally be moved from a quarantined area, they must be inspected and cleared by a Federal or State plant protection official.

Destructive pests now under Federal or State plant quarantines include the gypsy moth, imported fire ant, Japanese beetle, and golden nematode.

QUARANTINE INSPECTION

Some States stop vehicles on the road and inspect them for pests. This inspection protects local crops and other plant life from new kinds of pests.

Pest-risk articles moved in violation of quarantine restrictions may be seized, treated, or returned to point of origin at the owner's expense.

WHAT TO DO

- **If you're planning to move**, get information in advance on how to move your plants and household goods. Do not risk spreading plant pests to your new home.
- **When traveling**, don't dig up souvenir plants from a strange woods or the roadside. First, find out if that area is under quarantine regulations that require precautions be taken against spreading pests.
- **Before leaving a campsite**, carefully search your car, camper, trailer, and camping equipment for caterpillars, egg masses, and cocoons. Remove and crush any you find.
- **When trading plants or bulbs** with friends from other sections of the country (or sending them gift plants), be sure to comply with plant quarantine regulations.
- **For information** on the above, contact a Federal or State plant protection inspector or your county agricultural agent.

**HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF PLANT PESTS
"EVEN ONE CAN HURT"**

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